

ALABAMA EDUCATIONAL CRISIS MUST BE FACED NOW

By John Newton Baker
Director, A.P.I. News Bureau

Editor's Note: In this issue the Auburn Alumnews joins all of Alabama's public school forces in the presentation of Alabama's educational needs for public consideration. School officers everywhere—elementary, secondary, and college levels—have no quarrel with the Alabama legislature. The current program is not one of "political pressure" but of public enlightenment concerning the total educational picture.

Education in Alabama today is engaged in an unprecedented struggle for survival. It is faced with the tremendous problem of educating far more students than ever before at both lower and higher levels. Teachers are leaving the profession for other jobs. Many of those remaining in teaching are going to neighboring states where they are paid substantially higher salaries. The exodus may soon become a mass one unless something is done.

The picture in the elementary and secondary public schools is one of critical shortages and disheartening deficiencies. Forty-five thousand Alabama children between the ages of six and 18 are not in a school of any kind. The lower schools need 8,000 new classrooms and 1,000 new buses. It is not uncommon to see 90 pupils jammed like wooden soldiers into a bus built for 48.

Vocational education, public school programs for crippled children and adults, the vital teacher retirement program, free textbooks for grades through junior high school, and administration and operation of the state Department of Education—all of these adjuncts to good education are at stake in Alabama today.

In the state teacher's colleges and at Alabama and Auburn one finds authorities faced with an equally distressing educational and administrative task.

Ineffective, unprepared teachers are giving haphazard, substandard instruction. Permanent and temporary plant facilities are overflowing but additional expansion is impossible until funds are provided. Research is hamstrung for lack of money. Student activities are suffering at many of the colleges because of insufficient personnel to direct and inadequate space for activities. The teaching loads are so heavy that good instruction at professional levels is nearly impossible.

Administrators of colleges are talking in terms of increased fees and restricted enrollments. If this becomes necessary, then the veterans who have already had their education delayed by several years

will be in for another waiting period.

And all the schools—elementary, secondary, college—are having to use a greatly inflated dollar to purchase products of greatly deflated value.

Such was the situation on Friday, April 4 when some 200 city and county high school superintendents, state college presidents, and representatives of allied educational groups and many interested citizens met in Montgomery at the call of State Superintendent of Education Austin R. Meadows.

The meeting was to discuss the situation and recommend action. For several hours the group deliberated on the advisability of urging an immediate special session compared to the plan of waiting for the regular session May 5.

Finally, the predominant opinion began to make itself felt. Clarence Dannley, Superintendent of Education, Montgomery County, spoke forcefully: "I fear the deterioration if not the destruction of our school system unless action is taken immediately. Our neighboring state of Tennessee has just passed a 3% sales tax, with all proceeds to go to education. Florida has always paid its teachers better salaries than Alabama. Georgia is taking steps to protect and improve its educational gains. We need a special session immediately."

S. Baxter, Dothan added, "I wish to urge that this group go on record today as asking the legislature to meet at once to consider the total education picture."

Mr. Frank Grove, Secretary, Alabama Education Association, told the assembled educators that his organization was on record as favoring a special session.

Mrs. M. P. Walker, Tuscaloosa, State Parent Teacher's Association,



Educators from all over Alabama were called to Montgomery recently to discuss the problem of securing additional funds from the legislature to properly finance Alabama education. Dr. Austin R. Meadows, state superintendent, is shown above addressing the group. (Photo by Max Ziegler.)

SELECTED BUDGET ITEMS IN GENERAL ALABAMA EDUCATIONAL PICTURE

Educational Agency	Requested	Department	Committee	Recommended	Deficit
	1947-48	1947-48	1947-48	1947-48	1947-48
Alabama College	\$ 460,000.00			\$ 400,000.00	\$ 60,000.00
A.P.I. Maintenance	\$2,250,000.00			1,000,000.00	\$1,250,000.00
A.P.I. Ext. Service	410,000.00			300,000.00	110,000.00
U. of Ala. Maintenance	2,298,597.00			1,150,000.00	1,148,597.00
Five State Teacher's Colleges (Total)	1,217,905.00			1,054,000.00	163,905.00
Minimum Program (Elem. & Secondary Schools)	39,575,500.00			38,000,000.00	1,575,500.00
Free Text Books	1,500,000.00			325,000.00	1,175,000.00
Vocational Educ.	2,052,800.00			1,253,000.00	799,800.00
Teacher's Retirement	2,005,854.00			1,634,000.00	371,854.00
TOTALS	\$51,770,656.00			\$45,116,000.00	\$6,654,656.00

tion, pledged the support of the P.T.A.

Supt. John Bryan, Jefferson County Schools, Birmingham, presented the results of a survey which he said showed that a clear majority of both Senators and Representatives would back the teachers in their efforts for a special session for education.

But not all were for a special session. Typical of the few comments from those who considered a special session ill-advised were the remarks of C. A. Donahoo, Superintendent of Gadsden Public Schools. Supt. Donahoo warned that a special session might very well end in fruitless debate and deliberation and do more harm than good to the cause of education.

But the speech which crystallized the thinking of a majority of the group present was made by Mr. C. B. Gilmore, Grove Hill attorney, who is

(Continued on page 8)

Meadows Appoints Citizen's Committee To Inform Public of Education Problems

Below is the Citizen's Committee appointed by Dr. Austin R. Meadows to supervise the statewide public relations program in bringing the total educational picture to the attention of all Alabamians.

1. Ernest Stone—AEA President and City Supt., Jacksonville.
2. S. M. Tharpe—Supt. Baldwin County Schools.
3. C. B. Gilmore—Grove Hill Attorney and chairman, Citizen's Advisory Council.
4. John E. Bryan—Jefferson County Schools Supt., B'ham.
5. Geddes Self—Selma City Schools.
6. Ed Anderson—Madison County Supt.
7. Mrs. James Fitts Hill—Montgomery PTA.
8. Mrs. M. P. Walker—State PTA President, Tuscaloosa.
9. Garland Smith—Supt. Lamar County Schools.
10. J. A. Keller—President, Florence State Teacher's College.
11. H. G. Greer—Supt. Monroe County Schools.
12. J. A. Roberts—Supt. Henry County Schools.
13. Walter Jackson—Decatur City School Supt.

FINANCIAL FACTS

Below, in brief, is the financial picture of the requests by Alabama Education, and the recommendations by the Interim Committee on Finance and Taxation.

Total Increase Requested
by lower and higher education \$22,730,776.00
Total Increase Recommended
by Finance & Taxation Comm. \$16,684,037.00

Total Deficit \$ 6,046,739.00

Capital Outlay Recommendations

By Interim Committee on
Education \$15,000,000.00 Annually
By Interim Committee on
Finance & Taxation \$10,500,000.00—Single
Appropriation



Dr. Luther N. Duncan, president of Alabama Polytechnic Institute, left, and Ralph Adams, acting president of the University of Alabama, are shown discussing the crisis in education at a recent meeting in Montgomery of administrators from colleges and secondary schools. (Photo by Max Ziegler.)

Engineering Labs for 678 Students Inadequate for 1800 Enrolled Now

By J. E. Hannum

Greatly expanded facilities are urgently needed for the Auburn School of Engineering, essentially for two reasons. First, the facilities were wholly inadequate for many years before the war. Second, the unprecedented enrollment since the war causes a greater demand than ever before for more facilities.

The inadequacy of facilities before the war is evidenced by the fact that no new classrooms and laboratories have been provided the School of Engineering since 1929. Yet, in the intervening period of 15 years, the enrollment of engineering students almost tripled from 678 students in 1928-29 to a prewar maximum of 1849 students in 1942-43. In the last four years of the prewar

period the enrollment in engineering doubled.

The sudden unprecedented upsurge in enrollment since the war has created a greater demand for more facilities. The engineering enrollment is already considerably above the prewar maximum. Conservative estimates indicate that the enrollment in engineering will exceed 2800 students within the next two years.

THE AUBURN ALUMNEWS

Published once each month at Auburn, Alabama by the Alabama Polytechnic Institute

Entered as second class matter Feb. 4, 1946 at the Post Office, Auburn, Ala., under the Act of August 24, 1912.

OFFICERS

Frank Boyd '14 _____ President

Executive Committee

William F. Byrd, '21	Shelton C. Pinion, '39
Clyde W. Foreman, '24	Roy B. Sewell, '22
George A. Mattison, '19	Emil F. Wright, '24

Editors of Special Edition:

John Newton Baker	Ralph B. Draughon
Irene Long	Robert T. Leigh
Neil O. Davis	L. O. Brackeen
H. M. Davis	Kenneth Roy

This newspaper is not supposed to be representative of the Alabama Polytechnic Institute although it was made possible by the cooperation of the College. It is edited by the Auburn Alumni Association for the purpose of furnishing the news of Auburn to the Alumni of the Institute in such a form as to be interesting to them. Our interest is AUBURN, the Institution, and anything that concerns the welfare of that Institution.

Furthermore, almost one-third of the entire student body of the College is enrolled in the School of Engineering, actually 31 per cent.

Engineering education is admittedly expensive for two reasons:

a. Adequate laboratories and shops, provided with costly equipment, are essential requirements for effective engineering teaching.

b. A professional engineering school is chiefly concerned with students on the junior, senior, and graduate levels.

The cost of engineering education per student is much higher on the upper levels than on the lower levels. The ratio of teachers to students is greater, and more teachers with higher academic ranks are needed. Therefore, salaries are higher; and the total salary of faculty is the major item of operating expenses of the School of Engineering. Furthermore, the present salary scale is not high enough to attract experienced engineering teachers.

The engineering faculty before the war consisted of 35 teachers. Already since the war, the faculty has been increased to 54 teachers. At least 100 teachers will be required to handle the increased enrollment before the end of the next two years.

Provision of adequate laboratory facilities is a major requirement for the accreditation of engineering curricula by the Engineers' Council for Professional Development. The present laboratories of the departments of Civil, Electrical, and Mechanical Engineering were greatly overcrowded when the curricula of these departments were accredited in 1940. Accreditation might be discontinued unless additional facilities are provided. The curricula in Aeronautical Engineering and Chemical Engineering have not been accredited and will not be accredited until adequate laboratories are provided. Such a situation is deplorable.

The need is urgent for greatly expanded facilities of all kinds for the School of Engineering at Auburn, more teachers, more classrooms, more laboratories. The minimum requirement for the next two years is \$1,343,000.00 for laboratories and classrooms and \$780,000.00 per year for operating expenses as provided in budget submitted to the legislature.



J. E. Hannum, dean of the School of Engineering.



Dr. Austin R. Meadows, left, state superintendent of education, and Harry M. (Happy) Davis, executive secretary of the Auburn Alumni Association, are shown above discussing this special edition of the Auburn Alumnews. (Photo by Max Ziegler.)

Duncan Explains Purpose of This Issue

Alabama Polytechnic Institute
Auburn, Alabama

Office of the President
April 14, 1947

Dear Friends:

We present in this issue of the Alumnews the pressing and critical needs of public education in Alabama. The needs of Auburn are but a part of the whole need to provide better training and better paid teachers for our children from the elementary grades through the colleges.

We have joined with the public schools, the other State Colleges, and all the friends of education in a unified program of education which will call for additional financial support and perhaps for additional revenue. We give you here the total need of the State, together with the special urgent needs of Auburn.

Education in Alabama is in a crisis. We believe that if the citizens know and understand the facts, they will take steps to cooperate with their representatives and senators to remedy the situation.

Through the courtesy of the Auburn Alumni Association we are presenting these facts in this special edition of Alumnews in order that it may reach thousands of our alumni and friends throughout the State.

We sincerely urge each of you to study the facts given here and join with us and all the public schools and colleges in an effort to save our schools.

Sincerely yours,
L. N. Duncan
President

Frank Boyd Urges Alumni Cooperation

By FRANK BOYD

President, Auburn Alumni Association

Never in Auburn's long and useful service to the State has the need for the united action of its former students been so urgent as today. There is not anything wrong with Auburn that funds to meet the budget requirements will not cure.

The Institution needs money for Teaching, Research, Extension, and student activities. Teaching requires trained personnel, adequate class rooms, and much equipment. Money makes these possible. Research calls for buildings, special equipment, suitable land, laboratories, and technically trained men. Such men and materials cost money. Since all our citizens cannot come to Auburn the Extension programs must carry the message—teachings and findings—to the people.

A competent staff is essential. To this end ample funds must be provided.

All work and no play makes for dull boys and girls. The mental, physical, and social training must go hand in hand. Our facilities are wholly inadequate for such a well rounded program. Auburn's facilities for student activities, physical education, and athletic training are the poorest of any major college.

We have neither a gymnasium for boys nor girls nor a stadium large enough to seat the student body. A social center and victorious athletic teams make for happy students and contented alumni. These things must be provided but again it takes buildings and equipment and these require money. The State and the College owe it to its future citizens.

The Board of Trustees has directed the College Administration to ask our Legislature for sufficient funds to meet the minimum requirements for the next Biennium. We have never had our minimum needs satisfied. The monies in the State Treasury are derived from the contributions (taxes) of every Alabamian—every Auburn man and woman. The best is none too good for Alabama's sons and daughters.

We are simply asking that you lend your time and energy—your influence—to the end that Auburn—your Auburn—gets its rightful share of the available funds.

This will not just happen—let's make it happen.



Carl Voyles, athletic director.



Katharine Cater, dean of women.

Auburn Hits Bottom In Providing Gymnasium, Recreational Facilities

By Carl M. Voyles

Alabama Polytechnic Institute has the poorest gymnasium and other recreational facilities of any state-supported college in the United States. These facts are based on a study of 150 colleges, including 48 land-grant colleges throughout the United States.

Thus the student attending API does not have an equal opportunity with students attending other Alabama state supported colleges to take part in varsity and intramural sports and healthful recreation.

This survey, just completed by Captain J. W. Callahan, U. S. Navy, chairman; Mrs. Jeannetta T. Land, associate professor of physical education; and Mr. Wiley Allen, assistant director of student affairs, reports considerable unrest and dissatisfaction among the students as a result of these deplorable conditions.

The committee also found that the athletic and recreational facilities of Auburn have not been expanded at an equal pace in the past with the general expansion of the institution.

It is, therefore, imperative that sufficient money be appropriated for the following three major projects:

1. New men's gymnasium including main basketball court seating 12,000 people.
2. New women's gymnasium including indoor swimming pool and large gymnasium floor 100 feet by 200 feet.
3. Stadium to seat 40,000 people.

In addition there is immediate and urgent need for 60 tennis courts, 10 hand ball courts, 20 volley ball courts, a varsity baseball field, freshman baseball field, three practice football fields, eight softball diamonds, 10 badminton courts, an archery range, and a nine hole golf course.

The Alumni Gym, now being used for physical education intramurals and recreational sports, was not built by state appropriations. It was constructed in 1915 through subscription by the Alumni Association and the Athletic Fund.

The committee which surveyed the athletic needs at Auburn also recommended that priority of building needs be established and that requests of separate gymnasiums for men and women and enlargement of the stadium be given high priority on that list.

The students are the chief sufferers. They are the ones—your sons and your daughters, Alabama's youth—who are daily paying the penalty of this state's failure to appropriate enough money to do the job.

Auburn Has Physical Plant Adequate for 4000 Students But Is Concerned Over Today's 6500, Tomorrow's 7000

By Sam F. Brewster

The most urgent needs concerning the physical growth and development of the Alabama Polytechnic Institute, for the next several years, are listed below. A stranger to Auburn might, by reading such an imposing list of needs, form the opinion that the Alabama Polytechnic Institute is a campus of inadequate and dilapidated buildings held together only by the spirit of the Institution. Such is far from the case. There is much more of the physical plant that is good than bad.

The needs are many, but this is a healthy condition as the needs have been brought about by the heavy increase in enrollment and by the increase in the number of courses and services rendered.

Auburn has done well, but if given the proper facilities will be able to multiply her services and leadership many times. Splendid buildings do not, by themselves, make a great College, but a splendid staff of well trained leaders and a large student body of Alabama boys and girls, such as are at Auburn, merit better and more ample facilities.

The permanent physical plant at Auburn is inadequate to care for an enrollment of approximately 4000, provided it could be supplemented by certain facilities that have never been provided such as a Student Union Building, and Auditorium and a Pharmacy Building. In addition to take care of 4000 students adequately the recreational facilities would have to be expanded, several buildings would have to be modernized and many laboratories should be re-equipped with modern apparatus and equipment.

Temporary Facilities Utilized

Auburn is caring for approximately 6,500 students at the present time by overtaxing her permanent facilities and by the use of scores of temporary buildings that have been secured from Army camps and spotted over the campus. Offices have been provided in the corridors of some buildings, additional seats have been placed in classrooms, sections have been increased, attics, basements and storage areas have been reworked into classroom and laboratory space.

7000 Students Expected in 1951

It has been estimated that by the Fall of 1948 there will be over 9000 desiring admission to Auburn and that the attendance will probably level off in 1951 at between 7000 and 7900.

Women Students Denied Admission

By Katharine C. Cater

There is a definite need at the Alabama Polytechnic Institute for increased housing for women students. At present dormitory facilities are available for only 736 women.

The need for increased facilities is shown by the fact that this past summer it was necessary to refuse admission to about 400 girls because of lack of housing. Of a total of 6290 students enrolled at Alabama Polytechnic Institute for the fall quarter, 1047 were women. If this is to continue as a co-educational institution, surely a larger proportion of the student body should be women than is true at present.

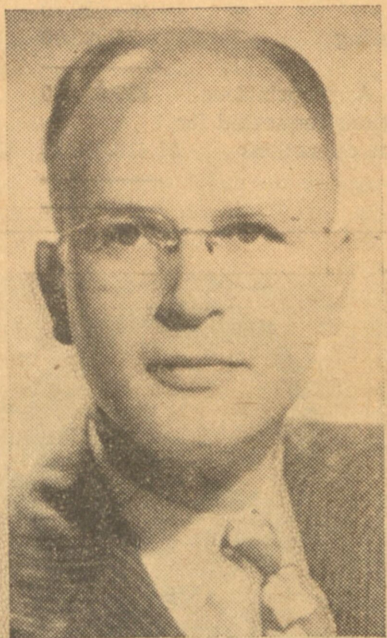
Although an enrollment of over 8000 is expected next year, the number of women students will have to remain static unless additional dormitory facilities are provided for them. Auburn will be failing to meet its obligations to the young women of Alabama unless it makes it possible for more of them to attend college.

Additional dormitories would necessitate adding members to the staff of the Dean of Women. It would be necessary to have a head of each dormitory. As the program for women expanded, it would be advisable also to add to the Dean of Women's staff a full-time social director and full time counselors.

a display room for building materials and structural models, a heliometric laboratory to demonstrate correct daylighting, additional space for the working library to avoid storing valuable books in a damp basement, adequate toilets (there is now only one fixture for over 500 men students and 18 men teachers), small laboratory for testing building materials (for teaching and proving local building products), additional offices (four and five teachers now occupy one small room).

The three-story drafting room building threatens collapse despite iron tie rods. The buildings are 60 years old; they were abandoned as obsolete by the chemistry department 15 years ago. The roof leaks into offices, classrooms, and library—drenching records and mildewing irreplaceable books. One student actually finished her drawing under an umbrella. Termites eat at the timbers, furniture, and files. Many rooms are heated only by open gas stoves.

Fire insurance rates on these combustible buildings are the highest on the campus, 17 times higher than the Engineering Buildings, and exactly equal to an old timber barn on Ag Hill. Stairs are narrow and steep, with unsafe irregular risers to trip the unwary user, and they are com-



Turpin C. Bannister, dean of the School of Architecture and the Arts.

Architecture Classes Held in Buildings Over 60 Years Old

By Turpin C. Bannister
The School of Architecture and the Arts, occupying scattered space in eight disreputable wrecks of buildings, is in desperate need of suitable and adequate quarters. With enrollment 165 per cent higher than it was before World War II, the School is faced with the problem of finding teachers and drawing rooms for the students.

The architectural course is one of two in the South which are accredited by the National Architectural Accrediting Board. For this reason Auburn has a most respected place as a regional center of building science. Yet not one of the buildings used by this School provides space even remotely suited to good teaching.

Drawing students encounter serious eye strain because they do not have enough adequate north light. There is no safe storage space for costly equipment. Lack of space prevents addition of essential features for up-to-date professional teaching.

This School needs immediately

Buildings Needed at Auburn Listed

List of Buildings Needed to Properly Accommodate a Student Body of 7,000, Including Undergraduate and Graduate

Type and Use of Building	Estimated Cost
1. Engineering Laboratory	\$ 986,500.00
2. Agricultural Building	1,200,000.00
3. General Classroom Building, School of Education	485,000.00
4. Architecture and Arts Building	929,751.00
5. Agricultural Engineering Annex	213,554.00
6. Home Economics Building	604,800.00
7. Student Union Building	1,000,000.00
8. Industrial Engineering Building	397,702.00
9. Dairy Husbandry Plant	441,787.00
10. Veterinary Building	377,000.00
11. Pharmacy Building	332,640.00
12. Administration Building	485,000.00
13. Library Annex	230,000.00
14. Cold Storage and Freezer Locker Plant	241,012.00
15. Gymnasium	950,000.00
16. Auditorium	1,150,000.00
17. Buildings and Grounds Building	461,821.00
18. Men's Dormitory and Cafeteria	1,003,394.00
19. Girls' Dormitories (4)	1,031,184.00
20. Girls' Dining Hall	90,000.00
21. Girls' Social Center	66,528.00
22. Swimming Pool and Bath House	90,000.00
23. Military Building (Army & Navy)	300,000.00
24. Remodeling and Enlarging Chemistry Building	284,337.00
25. Abattoir	50,000.00

Total Funds Needed \$13,402,010.00

NOT LISTED IN ORDER OF PRIORITY

pletely combustible.

The department of music, which instructed more than 450 students during the winter quarter, and has an increasing number of music majors preparing to teach music in Alabama public schools. The music department occupies a temporary shack, small rented lofts over a drug store, and a room in the Methodist Student Center.

The department of dramatic arts directs campus activity groups and instructs dramatic majors. Additional space is needed for this department.

The extraordinary increase in enrollment has placed dangerous overloads on the teaching staff. For four quarters most instructors have had to carry 35 class hours. The maximum should be 25 class hours to allow sufficient time for effective preparation, grading, and other necessary academic duties. A considerable increase in the teaching budget must be assigned to take care of this emergency. Thus far the staff has met the situation with splendid cooperation, but they cannot be allowed to continue such a grinding schedule.

Half of Science-Literature Faculty Are On Temporary Appointments

The School of Science and Literature has a two-fold purpose. It is a distinct school and as such is coordinate with the other eight schools of the college. In this capacity, it offers curricula designed to equip the student with a broad and liberal education and thereby enable him to care for him-

By Roger W. Allen

self better and to discharge more effectively the duties of a citizen.

A second purpose of the School of Science and Literature is to function as the main service division for the several professional schools of the college. Whatever curriculum a student selects, whether it be Engineering, Agriculture, Education, Home Economics, Physics, Foreign Languages, Speech, Journalism, etc. All of these subjects at Auburn are taught in the School of Science and Literature, thereby eliminating duplication and reducing cost.

Largely due to its role as the service division of the college, approximately 50 per cent of the resident teaching at Auburn is administered by the staff in Science and Literature.

The Prewar Picture

In 1941-42 there were 650 students enrolled in the School of Science and Literature. In order to teach these majors and provide instruction as a service division for the remainder of the college there were eighty-four teachers on the staff. This called for an annual maintenance budget of \$262,000. Equipment on hand was valued at \$61,000.

The Present Picture

During the Winter Quarter of 1946-47 there are 1515 students majoring in the School of Science and Literature. Total enrollment for the college is 6300. On the basis of the prewar teacher-student ratio, this calls for 195 teachers, including administrators and counsellors, if they could be found and housed. Actually, only 120 are available.

Over 50 per cent of these are on temporary, emergency appointments, and 17 are carrying overloads of such magnitude



DR. ROGER W. ALLEN

they are receiving extra pay. The average class is much larger than it should be and is being taught by a relatively inexperienced teacher.

The Estimated 1948-49 Picture

The admissions officer of the college estimates an average quarterly enrollment of 2200 in the School of Science and Literature and an all-college enrollment of approximately 9000 in 1948-49. On the basis of the prewar teacher-student ratio, this will call for a Science and Literature staff of 284, with comparable increases in equipment, classrooms and laboratories.

Our requested budget for the next quadrennium is based upon these facts of the recent past and the present and the well-authenticated trends of the immediate future. **Some way, some how, additional teachers must be found and additional facilities must be provided. Both require more money.**

Greatest Demand for Veterinarians Makes Expansion Necessary at Auburn

By R. S. Sugg

The Alabama Polytechnic Institute, through its School of Veterinary Medicine, offers the only professional training in the veterinary field that is available in the southeast. It is, therefore, both a duty and privilege that no other Land Grant College in this area has, for Auburn to supply the southeast with competent veterinarians. Graduates of this school must take care of:

- (1) General Veterinary practice.
- (2) Livestock sanitary work of the Federal, State, County and Municipal Governments.
- (3) Phases of public health work which are concerned with inspection of foods of animal origin and inspection of dairy herds and dairies, milk plants and ice cream plants.
- (4) Institutional work in the field of veterinary medicine.
- (5) Research work in the broad field of animal diseases.

It should be fully realized that Auburn, in training the personnel for veterinary service for this area, is not simply fitting a group of men to earn a selfish livelihood, but is doing the much more important job of supplying Ala-

bama and the other southeastern states with men who are public servants and who are absolutely necessary if a permanent and profitable agriculture is to be established and maintained.

Livestock production must be expanded if we are to save our soil and have a farm income above a bare subsistence level. As the number of livestock and poultry increases, the ravages of infections, parasitic and nutritional diseases will take an increasingly heavy toll, unless men trained in veterinary science are available to combat and control them.

At the present time, it is conservatively estimated that 12 to 15% of Alabama hogs, 10% of its workstock, 5% of its cattle and 20% of its poultry die annually from preventable diseases. The total value of these animals is approximately \$15,000,000. An increased number of adequately trained veterinarians must be made available if this heavy annual loss is to be reduced.

Reports from the 10 Land Grant Colleges in the southeast show that there is a critical

R. S. Sugg, dean of School of Veterinary Medicine.



shortage of adequately trained veterinarians in all fields.

To meet current demands, a minimum of 150 graduates in veterinary medicine will be needed annually. The Veterinary School at Auburn is expected to finish at least 50 to 75 of this number, inasmuch as it is the only established accredited school in the southeast. Modern veterinary education, like all medical education, is most expensive and cannot be made available in all states.

This gives the Alabama Polytechnic an opportunity of continuing to be the center of veterinary education in the southeast if the necessary facilities are provided to give training to students from states in the area which do not have schools.

A considerable part of the cost of maintaining the school can be met by contracting with other Land Grant Colleges as provided for by the 1945 Legislature. This will enable Alabama students to have access to an outstanding veterinary education at minimum expense to the state. The school

ANNUAL STATE APPROPRIATION NEEDED FOR THE BIENNium ENDING SEPTEMBER 30, 1949

ALABAMA POLYTECHNIC INSTITUTE

DIVISION	Annual 1946-47	Increase Requested	Annual 1947-49
A. COLLEGE PROPER DIVISION			
1. TEACHING FUNDS			
(a) Maintenance and Support	\$681,638.86	\$1,568,361.14	\$2,250,000.00
(b) Forestry School	25,000.00	.00	25,000.00
c Total teaching Appropriations	\$706,638.86	\$1,568,361.14	\$2,275,000.00
B. AGRICULTURAL EXPERIMENT STATION			
1. STATE RESEARCH FUNDS			
(a) Main Station	201,360.00	37,500.00(1)	238,860.00
(b) Artificial Insemination Unit	12,000.00	.00	12,000.00
(c) Forestry	25,000.00	.00	25,000.00
(d) Sub-stations			
(1) Black Belt	14,900.00	.00	14,900.00
(2) Gulf Coast	14,900.00	.00	14,900.00
(3) Piedmont	14,900.00	.00	14,900.00
(4) Lower Coastal Plains	14,900.00(2)	.00	14,900.00(2)
(5) Sand Mountain	12,500.00	.00	12,500.00
(6) Tennessee Valley	12,500.00	.00	12,500.00
(7) Upper Coastal Plains	14,900.00	.00	14,900.00
(8) Wiregrass	12,500.00	.00	12,500.00
(e) Experiment Fields	24,000.00	.00	24,000.00
Total Research Appropriations	\$374,360.00	37,500.00	\$411,860.00
(1) Request \$25,000.00 increase for 1947-48 and \$50,000.00 for 1948-49 or average of \$37,500.00			
(2) When established an appropriation has been made in the amount of \$60,000.00 for capital outlay.			
C. AGRICULTURAL EXTENSION SERVICE			
1. STATE EXTENSION FUNDS			
(a) Smith-Lever offset and supplement	264,000.00	146,000.00	410,000.00
(b) State Marketing	75,000.00	.00	75,000.00
Total Extension Appropriations	339,000.00	146,000.00	485,000.00
Total annual appropriations requested for all Divisions for current operations	\$1,419,998.86	\$1,751,861.14	\$3,171,860.00



Clyde Cantrell, director API Libraries.

API Ranks Ninth In Library Budgets For Area Colleges

By Clyde Cantrell

Library appropriations for API have been meager for the last 20 years—no more than 15 to 20 per cent of the amount recommended by the American Library Association.

The API libraries are requesting annual appropriations of \$142,900 to \$167,340 during the next four years. Through an increase over present appropriations, these figures still are less than those recommended by the American Library Association.

A recent survey of libraries in can also inaugurate and carry out research work on animal diseases that will be of inestimable value to the livestock industry of both Alabama and other southern states.

The needs for adequately trained veterinarians and also the de-

nine southeastern colleges showed Auburn receiving the smallest library appropriations of any. LSU received approximately five times API's appropriation.

The main library at API, which should seat 20 to 30 per cent of the student body, will seat only five per cent of the present enrollment. The five departmental libraries are also too small. Thought should be given immediately to the erection of a satisfactory library building seating 20-25 per cent of the student body.

Graduate work in certain departments of API will not be included when the Association of American Universities begins its program of accrediting graduate work. This is because of the lack of library materials and services available. It can be avoided.

Many more periodicals and books must be bought to support the instructional and research programs of the college. There is a crying need for more and better trained personnel to offer the type of service needed for the tremendous program of reorganization and reclassification.

It is historically true that libraries of this type should double in size every 10 to 15 years. For these reasons, API should have a central library housing as many as 300,000 volumes and seating 20 to 30 per cent of the student body. It should be built on a plan which offers possibilities for unlimited expansion. Granted the 1947-51 appropriations and adequate buildings, the API libraries should become the best scientific and technological collection in the Southeast. They would compare favorably with libraries of the better institutions of the United States.

mands for veterinary education is greater than at any time in the history of the profession. The veterinary school at Auburn must expand its staff and facilities if we are to meet this demand.

Ag School Needs Classroom Space And More Teachers

By M. J. Funchess

The School of Agriculture, which trains persons for positions in the broad field of agriculture, is conducting its course work with a shortage of teachers and in a wholly inadequate educational plant.

The current enrollment in the School of Agriculture is 670 students. The School is also giving basic course instruction to 200 additional students who are preparing themselves to become vocational agriculture teachers. The total of 670 is about 150 students more than the peak prewar year of 1940-41, when the enrollment of 519 over-taxed teaching facilities. According to the admissions officer, the college's total enrollment is estimated to reach 9,000 students in 1948-49. Of this number, 1,100 are expected to enroll in the School of Agriculture. With the School's present teaching staff and inadequate facilities, course work for such an enrollment would be impossible.

Two Major Problems

The precipitous rise from wartime to postwar enrollment, which far exceeded anticipated numbers, brought on suddenly two acute problems: (1) insufficient number of teachers, and (2) inadequate classroom and laboratory facilities.

Classes in farm power and equipment are entirely without a laboratory for teaching and display of motors, gas engines, tractors, and farm machinery. Thousands of dollars worth of this type of farm equipment for teaching purposes would be gladly furnished by manufacturers at no cost to the State if a farm



M. J. Funchess, dean of API School of Agriculture.

machinery laboratory were available. Lack of such a facility is extremely serious in view of the trend toward farm mechanization in Alabama.

The dairy manufacturing plant needs to be re-equipped with modern machinery for classes in dairy manufacture. Present equipment is antiquated and some of it is worn out.

The Department of Farm Ponds is housed in an old dwelling that is a daily fire hazard. This Department and the Department of Horticulture have no laboratory space of their own for teaching. At present the two are using make-shift space. Classes in ornamental horticulture courses are housed in an old dilapidated one room servant's house.

Demand for Graduates

Auburn graduates in agriculture have been highly regarded and in demand by various agricultural agencies and by industries serving agriculture. If the School of Agriculture is to continue to meet the demand for its graduates and to properly train the increased enrollment, the two acute problems of insufficient number of instructors and shortage of facilities must be met and met soon.



Col. G. M. Williamson, Commandant ROTC.

problem besides the necessity of adequately securing this valuable property.

The lack of sufficient classrooms and offices at Auburn has seriously affected the efficient operation of the Military Department. The existence of these deficiencies is recognized by the college authorities, and has prompted them to include in the Building Program for Auburn a combined Army and Navy ROTC Building which will cost six hundred thousand dollars.



Capt. J. W. Callahan, professor of Naval Science.

Building Needed By Navy For Reserve Program

By J. W. Callahan

The Naval ROTC at API was established in September 1945 for the purpose of training young men to become officers in the Regular Navy and Marine Corps and in the Naval Reserve or in the Marine Corps Reserve.

API is one of fifty-two Naval ROTC Colleges and Universities throughout the United States which are training young men to become officers in the Navy and Marine Corps. In order to properly carry out the Naval ROTC Program it will be necessary to have a suitable Naval Science building to house the large gunnery and fire control laboratory and to provide classroom and office space.

At the present time the Navy is making a great effort to obtain funds from Congress to assist API and other Naval ROTC Colleges in constructing a Naval Science building. At present, there is no suitable building for the guns, fire control and torpedo equipment to be placed on display for instructional purposes.

Adequate building facilities for the Naval ROTC Program are urgently required. The Navy hopes to obtain funds up to \$75,000 to assist API in constructing an adequate Naval Science building. In addition to the Naval ROTC Unit, the Navy has a Naval Aviation College Program at API and is also sending a number of officers now in the Regular Navy to API to further their education.



J. N. Baker, director, API News Bureau.

Building, More Staff Members Needed To Train Education Students at API

By Zebulon Judd

Since 1941 half of the teachers of Alabama have left the classroom. Today approximately 8,000 classrooms—more than one-third of the State's total—are occupied by teachers with emergency or substandard certificates. Many teachers in the schools today are no more than high school graduates.

Size of the Job

With all teacher-education institutions of the State working at full capacity best estimates indicate that it will require 10 to 15 years to provide Alabama's schools with an adequate supply of properly trained teachers.

Purpose of Auburn's School of Education

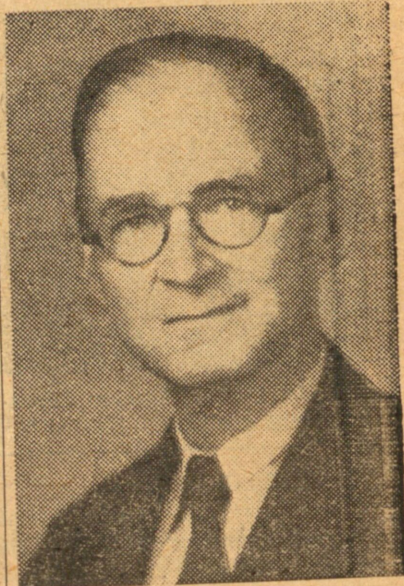
Auburn's School of Education has for its function the education of teachers for the Public Schools of Alabama. Founded as a Department in 1915, reorganized as a School of Education in 1919, it has furnished Alabama's schools with more than 2,200 teachers with bachelor's degrees and over 500 teachers and school administrators with master's degrees. In addition to these, hundreds of teachers in the past 30 years, while not receiving degrees, have improved themselves professionally through study in the School of Education at the Alabama Polytechnic Institute.

For the four-year period, 1939-42, the School of Education graduated 866 teachers with bachelor's and master's degrees, an annual average of 216. Auburn-trained teachers have long been greatly in demand. Records of the Placement Service show that in the last 14 years all except 7 of its available graduates were placed. At present, demand exceeds supply many times over. In the year 1945 more than 700 calls for teachers were received by the School.

Needs of Auburn's School of Education

For the past year the enrollment in the School of Education was 853, which represents more than a 100 percent increase over the previous year. It is reliably estimated that the enrollment will be 1200 within two years.

To care for this rapidly increasing enrollment and to assist in providing the State with



Zebulon Judd, dean of the School of Education.

an adequate supply of well-trained teachers the facilities of the School of Education must be expanded. The two most outstanding and inescapable needs are:

- (1) A School of Education building especially equipped for use in the preparation of teachers.
- (2) More staff members.

The School has never had adequate classrooms, office space, and instructional supplies to meet the demands placed upon it. At present the situation is very critical. To carry forward its program and to increase the service to the State, Auburn is asking that an Education building be provided, especially designed and equipped to discharge the function of teacher-education. The staff of the School is inadequate. A minimum of 11 new members should be added.

Auburn's only source for the additional funds to supply Alabama's new demand for public school teachers is appropriations by the State Legislature.

the API Photographic Service which furnishes photographs for every division of the college.

It has the further responsibility of editing all college catalogs and publications—pictorial bulletins, general catalogs, and similar booklets. One of its staff members is managing editor of the Auburn Alumnus and supervises and edits each issue of that paper.

However, from the standpoints of both staff salaries and maintenance funds, it needs a budget of at least twice the present outlay to begin and complete an adequate public relations program for the Alabama Polytechnic Institute.

For every dollar wisely invested in public relations a college or university receives ten in return. Public relations is the pump-priming necessary for any successful college program. It is most unwise to handicap this phase of Auburn's growth with an entirely inadequate budget.

Public Relations Needs To Expand To Radio, Films

By J. N. Baker

The public relations program at Auburn is suffering because of an acute lack of funds to properly publicize and promote the college and all its activities. In an age when radio is a chief and dramatic means of spreading information and of requesting aid on certain projects, this department has no money in its budget for such an all-important public relations medium.

With other colleges and universities making full use of technicolor sound movies to tell their stories to an interested public, lack of money makes it impossible for the News Bureau to issue such films.

The News Bureau now prepares general and feature releases for all daily and weekly newspapers in Alabama, in addition to sending brief news releases to radio stations. It also supervises

Extension Service Has Bigger Job And Needs To Match Federal Funds



P. O. Davis, director of experiment station.

By P. O. Davis

There are three major reasons why the Extension Service of the Alabama Polytechnic Institute is asking that state funds for extension work be increased by \$71,000 per annum, or from the present total of \$339,000.00 to \$410,000.00. These are: (1) A bigger job to be done; (2) greater cost per person and per unit; (3) adequate state funds for matching all federal funds available to Alabama.

Under point number one attention is called to the fact that hardly a week passes without new requests for additional service by the Extension Service. One county, for example, has an enormous drainage job. They want the Extension Service to plan it and to give engineering direction. Another county wants to make dairying a much bigger part of their farming, so they call for special assistance in stimulating farmers to do dairying and guiding them along successful lines.

These are only a few of many current requests that continue to come to the State office at Auburn for worthwhile and personal service for the Extension Service to render. In addition there is the ever increasing overhead job. A generation ago farming in Alabama was rather simple. It was largely a row-crop agriculture.

But today farming in Alabama is greatly diversified, which makes it more complicated and requires therefore, much more information. Countless problems are involved in livestock farming about which row-crop farmers have had little or no information.

There is also the fact that additional scientific information is made available. Each new discovery places a big responsibility upon the Extension Service to make the facts known to the farmers of Alabama. An outstanding example of this is alfalfa. A generation ago it was believed that alfalfa would succeed upon only one solid division of Alabama. Now it is known that alfalfa will succeed on all well drained soils in the state. This multiplied by 10 or 20 the number of farmers available to plant alfalfa but uninformed as to producing it. And success with alfalfa is more exacting than success with cotton. This means a much bigger educational job for the Extension Service. And so the story goes on and on.

Under point number two we are dealing with the fact that a dollar is worth much less than

a dollar was worth a few years ago. More money is needed, therefore, for salaries in order to retain for extension workers the same standard of living than that had a few years ago. In addition to this standard of living people are entitled to promotions in salaries as they improve their efficiency, grow in experience, and become older with greater family responsibilities. Salaries are not all. Expenses must be provided. Most extension workers use automobiles. The cost of owning and operating automobiles is now much more than it was five to ten years ago. Garage service, for example, is double in many instances.

The Alabama Extension Service is in position to match all federal funds now available but the Bankhead-Flannagan Act has not matured. Another increment is anticipated. The additional \$71,000 requested will guarantee adequate state and county funds for matching all federal funds available to Alabama for extension work.

Early in 1947 when Dr. Duncan requested heads of all schools and divisions of the Alabama Polytechnic Institute to submit their financial needs for the next biennium, the Extension Service asked for an increase of \$146,000. This was reduced recently to \$71,000 in order to help meet the state fiscal problem and also to cooperate with other divisions of Auburn.

Recreation Space Would Help Solve Social Problems

By Tommy Schuessler

The provisions for places to hold special affairs on the Alabama Polytechnic Institute campus are woefully inadequate. The only two places available at present are Girls' Gym and Alumni Gym. According to the College Architect, Frank M. Orr, the maximum number of people who should be allowed in these buildings are:

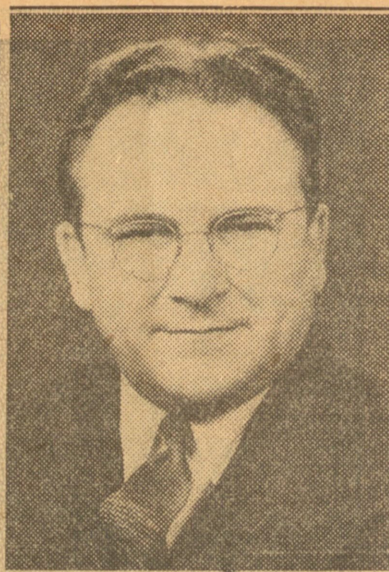
Girls' Gym	296
Alumni Gym	660

Since about 6300 students are now enrolled at the Alabama Polytechnic Institute, it is obvious that these places do not meet the needs of the students.

Langdon Hall, theoretical gathering place, seats 10 per cent of the student body.

There is a decided need also for more recreational facilities on the campus. Many social problems would be solved or avoided if Alabama Polytechnic Institute were able to offer good, wholesome recreation to students and to center student activity on the campus itself. This need is all the more urgent because of the limited facilities supplied by the town of Auburn.

In a school population with so large a percentage of veterans, entertainment and recreation are exceedingly important. Since many boys live under very crowded and unpleasant conditions, there should be a place to which they could go for reading, relaxing, or studying. Student Center is a help in meeting this demand. The real need is for a Student Union Building.



Russell S. Poor, dean of School of Graduate Studies and Director of Auburn Research Council.

Personnel Shortage In South Places Job On Graduate School

By Russell Poor

In 1940 twenty-seven thousand Master's degrees were awarded in the United States, an increase of 1800 per cent over 1900. During the same period doctor's degrees increased over 900 per cent. In spite of the number of persons receiving advanced degrees during this period the greatest personnel shortage today is for men with training represented by these degrees.

The situation referred to above has given rise to a concentrated effort to create a National Science Foundation within the government for the support of research on a national scale. Several bills are now before the Congress, most of them containing scholarship and fellowship clauses. It is believed to be a certainty that any bill that may be written into law must contain such a clause. What does this mean to Alabama? For one thing, it probably means that Alabama's colleges will receive such funds as are provided by these legislative acts only in proportion to their fitness to benefit by them.

Our ability to benefit by these funds will depend to a very large degree upon three things:

- (1) A staff well qualified to present a graduate program.
- (2) Reasonable space and equipment for the conduct of research.
- (3) Some record of research production, at least in the basic sciences of biology, chemistry, mathematics, and physics.

Auburn should have its Graduate School completely accredited. It should have a small but well qualified staff for graduate teaching and a reasonable amount of space and equipment suitable for graduate teaching and research. Given these we may be judged worthy for these National Science Foundation grants. Other land-grant colleges are making definite preparation along these lines. Auburn should not lag.

The request for our Graduate School now before the interim committee of the legislature is for an amount far less than that necessary to place our Graduate School on a par with other land-grant colleges, even those in most

Experiment Station Asks Less Than 10 Percent Increase

By M. J. Funchess

The fact-finding agency for Alabama agriculture is the Agricultural Experiment Station of Alabama Polytechnic Institute.

In addition to the Main Station at Auburn, there are seven substations located in the seven major soil regions; six experiment fields situated on important but less extensive soils; five forestry units located in areas where forestry is important and where forestry problems need to be solved; and a recently established plant breeding unit.

Results from this Experiment Station System provide the bases for a constructive and progressive farm program, and point the way to improvements in many phases of the State's agriculture. Briefly summarized are just a few of the Station's significant contributions:

Results from extensive fertilizer experiments provided the bases for improving the grades of fertilizers now used in Alabama.

Yields of corn, small grains, grain sorghum, sweet potatoes, annual and perennial hay crops, pastures, and temporary grazing crops can be doubled, according to experimental results.

Experiments with forage crops and pastures by this Station System have laid the foundation for a profitable livestock production program in Alabama. Extensive experiments have been conducted on the use of crops for most efficient conversion into livestock products. Results from this work show that hogs, poultry, turkeys, dairy cattle, or beef cattle are excellent possibilities for increasing farm income on most farms if feed production systems developed by the Station are used. For example, on a one-time eroded hillside at Auburn, a year around cropping system is producing about \$30 worth of beef per acre per year. A similar cropping system is yielding an average of \$46 per acre per year in process milk.

One of the significant marks of influence by research on the state's progress is that of the development of livestock importance in the farm income of Alabama. In 1924, 14 cents out of each farm dollar received from marketings in the State came from the sale of livestock and livestock products. In 1945, or 21

southern states. However, the sum requested should enable Auburn to meet the minimum demand which inevitably will be placed upon it. The present enrollment of 100-150 graduate students per quarter is very inadequately financed, therefore we do not have to predict a time when the requested funds will be needed—that time is now. Normal growth to 500 students is conservatively predicted within the next four years.

From what has been said it seems absurd to attempt a justification for the small asking for the Graduate School at the Alabama Polytechnic Institute. These are critics of graduate work, but like fine art it is the critic and not the object that is on trial.



Dr. George Johnson, director Student Health Service.

Student Health Service Should Include Exam

By Dr. George Johnson

The need for a well-organized Student Health Program is evident on every college campus; Auburn is like any other college in this respect. It is not necessary that we attempt to establish the fact of necessity, but we do like to discuss the extent of the Student Health Program which we feel that Auburn has a right to expect. Shall this program be one of "how little," or one of "how much"?

There is one service that any student has a right to expect of any health program, this service falls in the category of "how little," and that service is the care of the common ailments responsible for most of the absences in the classroom. This ideal is well worth-while, but the perspective goes but little further than the immediate present.

I would like to see each student get at least one reasonably good physical examination before he gets his diploma. This examination should include an X-ray of the chest, blood serology and urinalysis. It is not my idea that we should attempt to correct all the infirmities that a student brings to college with him, but we can at least call his attention to his infirmities and suggest that he procure corrective treatment.

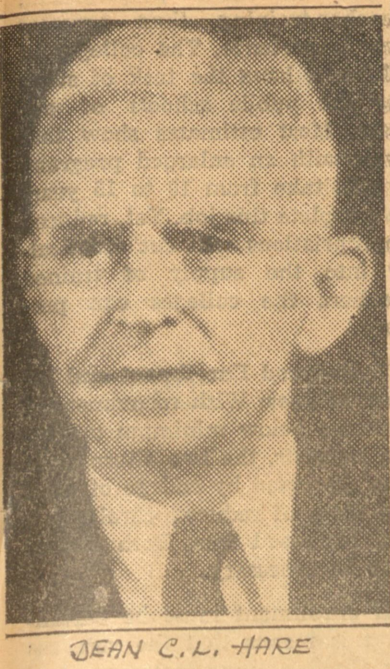
We must serve at least in an advisory capacity in the proper development of the Physical Education Program.

It takes time, equipment, personnel and money to carry out these ideas. Yet, when the expense of such a program is prorated among the student body we will find, I am sure, that the cost is small.

years later, the percentage had increased to 34 cents.

Thousands of farmers every year visit the Main Station, its Substations, and its Experiment Fields. There they see research in action and study research results, all of which has a bearing and influence on agricultural progress in Alabama.

To maintain its present services to farmers as a research agency, the Agricultural Experiment Station of Alabama Polytechnic Institute is asking for less than a 10 per cent increase in appropriations over its present budget.



Limited By Lack Of Lab Space

By C. L. Hare

The School of Chemistry is housed in Ross Chemical Laboratory—a building which was designed to care for a student body of 2000. It is doubtful if the planners thought the enrollment would ever reach 6000, but wings were planned for future growth. These have not been added. Laboratory space limits the number of students who can enroll in chemistry classes.

Many students are forced to extend length of residence because of delay in getting into chemistry classes which are prerequisites to other courses. The chemical engineering laboratories do not meet minimum standards. Laboratory technology does not have a place which it can call its own.

A research program is necessary to attract and stimulate members of the staff, as well as to offer advanced training to qualified students. Graduate students inspire undergraduates and their intense interest exerts a healthy influence on those who are working toward the first degree. Research requires space. Staff members gladly engage in research if space is provided, and advanced students can gain valuable experience in working with them.

The heart of a chemistry building is its library. Our library does not contain all of the references it should have although the sources of information are better than the facilities for using them. The library should be enlarged to at least twice its present size.

The building has a total of four classrooms. As many as 11 classes are scheduled at the same hour and 40 classes are now scheduled during the hours from eight until twelve. Classrooms, laboratories, offices, and a central stockroom must be built in additional space if the school is to provide service courses for the other schools on the campus, continue professional training for its degree curricula, and maintain a research program.

Efforts to make additions to our staff emphasize the fact that our salaries are well below those offered in industry. Our budget should provide salaries commensurate with those offered by similar institutions. A reasonable living standard must be guaranteed and reasonable hopes of advancement must be justified if we are to attract and hold the staff necessary for the work.

Pharmacy Facilities Built to Accomodate Half Present Group

By L. S. Blake

The most outstanding need of the School of Pharmacy at the present moment is a new building. At present quartered in Ross Chemical Laboratory, the facilities are entirely inadequate. These facilities were built to accommodate 100. The present enrollment is 197. It is anticipated that the enrollment will reach 250 by September of 1947. Double sections are having to be run in pharmacognosy, dispensing pharmacy, and operative pharmacy laboratories. As the freshman and sophomore classes move up to the junior and senior years the congestion will be even worse.

Additional teaching and maintenance funds will have to be made available to the School if it is to meet the teaching demands made on it by the increase in student body. Four teachers can not be expected to do the teaching and administer the work of 250 students in a professional course.

We have neither facilities nor staff to carry on a research or graduate program.

It is inconceivable that the School of Pharmacy should not carry on a graduate program. Alabama boys and girls should have the same opportunity, based upon having had graduate work, to assume positions requiring this high training as have the youth of adjoining states.

The shortage of graduate pharmacists in Alabama is most acute. There are counties in Alabama without a single registered pharmacist. There is hardly a drug store in Alabama today that is not understaffed with registered pharmacists. I believe that we could place 250 graduates in responsible positions right now. There are openings for 200 new stores in Alabama at the present. This is opportunity unlimited.

YOURS IS THE CHALLENGE

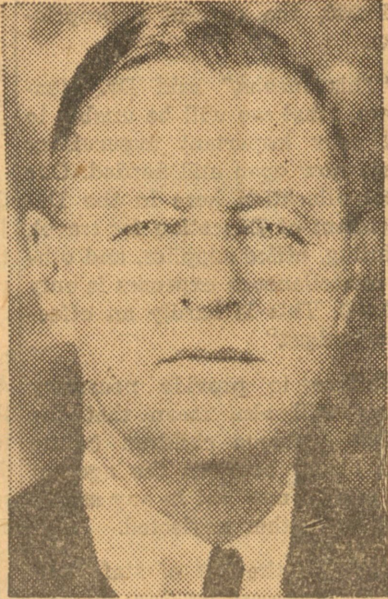
By Harry M. "Happy" Davis
Secretary, Auburn Alumni Association

For 90 years now this Great Institution has stood the test of many a storm. For 90 years young men and women have come and gone. For 90 years young men and women have passed through "Main Gate." The stone stairways of Langdon Hall have seen them all. There will be more.

Today, we see, after years of war, a re-awakening at Auburn with a student body larger than any other year in its history. Auburn's prestige as an outstanding institution is recognized everywhere.

The prestige of a college is a reciprocal thing, in a large measure proportional to the former students who remember that their fundamental knowledge was gained from the unselfish zeal of the faculty of that college. The strength of an Alumni Association, the standing of its members in their communities and in industry and business beams into and is reflected by that prestige.

Presented to you in this issue are the budget requests for the biennium ending September 30, 1949 as submitted by the Auburn Administration to the State Di-



L. S. Blake, dean of School of Pharmacy.

rector of Finance. Probably a lot of those who read this will never have stopped to think of education as a business. A glance at the request will quickly clarify this point. You will see that Auburn has requested \$6,343,720 for current operations and \$19,520,730 for building needs for a student body of 7,000 for the years 1947-48 and 1948-49.

Nothing will aid the progress of a State more than an outstanding educational program. In this respect our State, the State of Alabama, is woefully lacking. The potential strength of our State has never been realized and it never will be until the various educational programs of the State are allowed sufficient funds on which to operate. Let us not look for someone on which to place the blame unless we assume part of the responsibility ourselves. Maybe we have not had an occasion to be reminded of our responsibility. We can excuse the past perhaps, but not the future.

Those of you who attended Auburn, you the Alumni—to those who have basked in the reflected glory of Auburn—to you the challenge comes forth. The reciprocal thing of which we speak now, after 90 years, seeks your help. Will you answer?

School of Home Ec Needs Building And Larger Faculty

By Marion W. Spidle

If Auburn's School of Home Economics is to fulfill its functions we cannot afford to lag behind other State institutions and Land-Grant Colleges because of overloaded faculty members, inadequate housing, and poorly equipped laboratories. The very nature of our campus set up by our Federal Government gives Home Economics a prominent place on the campus and attracts the very finest young women in the State to our campus for home economics training offered at Alabama Polytechnic Institute. Hundreds of graduates occupying prominent positions in the United States, England and Puerto Rico are sufficient testimony of the quality of training we are doing.

At present it is impossible to supply the demand we receive each quarter for our graduates in every major field in home economics. In pioneer days home economics was considered a career profession and there was little correlation between teaching home economics and education and education for home and family living. Today we realize that we have done an excellent job in training young women for homemaking as well as for professional fields. We find business, industry, and research asking for home economics trained women in every walk of life. Because our majors are well trained in related fields of chemistry, bacteriology and social studies, we receive many calls from textile chemists, pharmaceutical laboratories and draftsmen for home economics trained women.

If we are to maintain our present standards or expand to meet the increasing demand for home economics trained women, it will be absolutely necessary to increase the number of faculty members and the physical facilities for teaching in more and larger laboratories.

The School of Home Economics is housed in an old building



Mrs. Marion W. Spidle

many times remodeled for various and sundry uses. It was never planned to house home economics laboratories and it is impossible to remodel or equip it to adequately care for the present equipment in the building.

For instance, we are unable to use the hot plates on the nutrition laboratory desks because the circuit will not begin to carry the overload. To overload would be a definite fire hazard and to install a new circuit would be very expensive. With this handicap it is clear to see that we are hampered in the use of some of the utilities and space we might use. This is just one of the many physical limitations under which we are struggling in our present inadequate housing.

We strongly request the following program for the School of Home Economics:

- a. Erection of the new building as outlined and approved in the 1941 building plan \$319,000.00
- b. Equipment of building 20,000.00
- c. Increased budget to care for additional faculty and increased salaries for the present staff 76,080.00
- d. \$415,080.00
- e. Space and budget for establishing department of Home Economics Research (included in New Building budget.)



The Citizen's Committee, above, appointed by Dr. Austin Meadows, state superintendent of education, plans a statewide public relations program to present the educational picture to citizens.

Educational Crisis Must Be Faced Now

(Continued from page 1)

Chairman of the Citizen's Advisory Council. Mr. Gilmore's talk, which drew spontaneous applause, emphasized the shameful inadequacies of Alabama education and expressed the belief that once the people of this state were properly informed of the true conditions relief would be forthcoming.

"Personally, I'm for action," he concluded.

Upon the motion of API President Luther N. Duncan, the educators voted to appoint a citizen's committee to draw up recommendations for action and a plan of procedure.

The drive at present has two main objectives:

(1) To inform and educate Alabamians everywhere as to the critical plight of education in our state;

(2) To urge a special session of the legislature for the purpose of action to secure the necessary funds to insure a sound educational program on all levels.

Not that the schools, common and college alike, do not appreciate the budget of \$47,000,000 that the Finance and Taxation Interim Committee has earmarked and recommended for their use for 1947-48. They are grateful and they realize that this sum represents an increase from the amount appropriated by former legislatures. And schoolmen everywhere realize that the Finance and Taxation Committee is faced with the problem of a balanced overall state budget.

But the total school budget is still \$6,000,000.00 short of the amount requested. Three points need to be made clear here:

(1) The \$53,000,000 requested represented a minimum budget.

(2) This amount was for operational and administrative expenses only.

(3) No building needs or expansion—no capital outlay—was included in this total figure.

It appears that both the Interim Committee on Education and the Interim Committee on Finance and Taxation are in somewhat general agreement as to the need of money for education in Alabama. The point of disagreement—not argument—is the manner in which the money may be raised.

"In any event," as a spokesman said, "the issue should be left up to the people. And the only way to bring it to their immediate attention is a special legislative session, out of which might come a suggested constitutional amendment."

Even while the meeting of Alabama educators was in session the Interim Committee on Education was completing its report to the legislature. The report was most sympathetic to all state-supported education, and recommended the minimum program for public schools and colleges be adopted.

The Interim Committee on Education has been praised by all groups—interested and disinterested—for its fine survey of educational facilities in Alabama, and its thoughtful, challenging recommendations. This committee saw firsthand the educational scene in Alabama. From Red

Bay to Green Bay and from Point Clear to Bridgeport these men—sincere, alert, capable—saw the tragic results of the "too little, too late" penny wise, pound foolish policy that has hamstrung Alabama education for . . . "lo, these many years."

Now what will this mean to Alabama education in general—this \$6,000,000 differential between the amount requested and amount recommended by the Interim Committee on Finance and Taxation?

Dr. Austin R. Meadows, State Superintendent of Education, stresses a major loss to Alabama's public school system: "Our \$1,500,000 deficit will make it impossible to employ teachers to relieve the overcrowding now present in schools, or to take care of increasing enrollment, especially in high schools."

The problem of teacher overload in the white elementary schools of Alabama is most serious. In elementary schools, 2600 white teachers have 41 or more pupils per teacher; 536 elementary white teachers have 51 or more pupils per teacher.

"At the same time," continues Dr. Meadows, "the lack of requested funds will mean that school transportation will be crippled and school administrative operation will remain at a standstill."

Alabama's 3,000 schoolbuses, each built for 46 persons, transport an average of 75 children to and from school daily. On one bus viewed by the Interim Committee on Education, 90 pupils were jammed like wooden soldiers into a bus built for 48. Unlike wooden soldiers, they would break and bleed in case of an accident.

The State Department of Education asked for money to finance 8,000 new classrooms and 1,000 new buses. No money was provided for these purposes. With regard to need for classrooms, Supt. Meadows told the writer that this year 559 public schools operated in churches and 842 in private buildings—mostly shacks.

"The Interim Committee on Education thought enough of our needs to recommend \$15,000,000 annually for capital outlay—in other words, for construction of buildings and purchase of buses," said Dr. Meadows.

For vocational education in Alabama's public schools the picture is even darker. The considerable deficit in this department due to the sharp knife of the Finance and Taxation Committee will mean that the salaries of vocational teachers will have to be reduced. Nor can additional teachers be employed.

"Public school programs for crippled children and adults will have to be drastically curtailed," said Dr. Meadows.

Alabama's new teacher retirement program came in for a decrease from the minimum requested. Dr. Meadows points out that this cut will mean that unless the state agrees at a later date to pay off the debt which will be incurred to maintain the program that "someone will be in great danger of losing his retirement privileges."

The State Department of Education itself had requested \$240,000 for current operating ex-

penses. This request was cut to \$120,000, the current appropriation.

"This means," said Dr. Meadows, "that we will be unable to fill four important supervisory posts now open and needed. Our total allocation here in the Department of Education for travel, printing, office supplies, and other miscellaneous expenses is only \$25,000. This is hardly an effective budget."

Failure to provide necessary funds will also mean that the 45,000 Alabama children (white and black) between the ages of six and 18 now not in any school will be further neglected.

High on the list of state services hampered by the insufficient budget recommendations is the extension of free textbooks through junior high school. An increase of \$1,165,000 asked for this purpose was refused.

Discussing conditions of education among Negroes in Alabama Dr. Meadows described them as "unbelievably bad." He said that frequently there were as many as 80 to 100 pupils per teacher, often in one-room barns and shacks.

The value of well-financed education to a state is shown in U. S. Chamber of Commerce reports which show a definite, high correlation between good education in a state and the amount of retail sales.

Dr. Meadows illustrated this fact as it applies to Alabama. He said that in 1901, Alabama spent a total of one million dollars on education and the assessed value of all property in the state was 262 millions. In 1946, when the state spent about 44 millions for all lower and higher education, the property valuation in Alabama had been increased to \$1,169,000,000.00.

In summing up the present plight of the public schools of Alabama, Supt. Meadows proudly pointed to a National Education Association research project which shows that Alabama ranks next to the top (second only to Pennsylvania) in good administrative procedures and in equitable distribution of funds allotted it for education.

"The only catch," he adds regretfully, "is that we have never been given the funds to adequately support a statewide educational program that would be a credit to Alabama. It's like having a Lincoln automobile out on the road with no gas to run it."

Higher education in Alabama suffered considerably greater financial cutbacks than did the elementary and secondary schools. The University of Alabama, Auburn, and the five state teachers' colleges at Troy, Livingston, Jacksonville, Florence and Montgomery requested for maintenance a total of \$5,766,502. The Finance and Taxation Interim Committee recommended appropriations totaling \$3,204,000—leaving a deficit of more than \$2,500,000.00.

Individual requests and amounts granted each institution included:

1. University of Alabama, for maintenance, and not including Research, Extension, or the Medical College, requested \$2,298,597.00. The recommendation was for \$1,150,000.00. The deficit is \$1,148,597.00.

2. Alabama Polytechnic Insti-

tute, for maintenance, and not including Extension, Research, or School of Forestry, requested \$2,250,000. The recommendation was for \$1,000,000.00. The deficit is \$1,250,000.00.

3. The five state Teacher's Colleges requested a total of \$1,217,905.00. The recommendation was for \$1,054,000. The deficit is \$163,905.00.

What will this total deficit of more than \$2,500,000.00 mean in Alabama's education picture at the college level? The writer interviewed college presidents, deans, directors, research professors, administrative personnel, and other interested and allied individuals. Nowhere did he find anything except a consensus that this lack of adequate finances will mean the handcuffing of our colleges just at a time when they need all their strength to meet the challenge. Many persons in responsible positions predicted the colleges could not continue to open their doors to new students unless more money were provided.

In all the interviews, certain basic points were emphasized. Seven major facts seem clear:

1. **The colleges must continue to employ unqualified teachers:**

In every institution of higher learning in Alabama today a great many teaching positions are held by instructors who, in normal times, would not rate a second consideration for their jobs. Often, instruction is being handled by young college graduates with no advanced degrees, and with no teaching experience.

2. **Instruction given is "watered":** By this is meant that the overload of students per teacher makes it impossible to give high quality, individualized instruction. Insufficient teachers and lack of adequate classroom space combine to make this problem very real in every Alabama college.

3. **Curtailement of Graduate Work:** Unless sufficient funds are provided the Graduate work offered by Alabama colleges will suffer. And this will occur at a time when, more than ever before, there should be expansion in the work leading to the granting of advanced degrees. Some public school systems now require their teachers to have Master's. Others will eventually follow suit. Are we to penalize Alabama's youth by failing to provide such training within our own state?

4. **Abandonment of Planned Research:** All progress depends upon research. Yet, with thousands of students demanding basic college education and with insufficient money being recommended for the maintenance of such higher education in Alabama, all available funds must be devoted to classroom instruction. This leaves research a cripple, instead of a trail-blazer.

5. **Reduction of Student Activities and Services:** The health and welfare of college students is a primary concern of any educational program. Mental and physical health demand that good programs of social life, physical education, recreation, and other student activities be provided. However, again, such vital needs must go relatively unheeded for lack of money with which to sponsor them.

6. **Teacher-training will suffer:** Today in our state and national life teachers by the thousands are leaving the classrooms in

search of other employment. Teacher-training thus assumes new importance. The colleges of Alabama have the task of staffing the public schools of our state. Most estimates show that even with an enlarged program, it will take from 10 to 15 years to complete this job. Yet, reduced appropriations will cut drastically into the supply of trained teachers the colleges can produce.

7. **Reduced Enrollment and Increased Fees:** With recommended amounts below minimum operating requests, the two alternatives now discussed by college officials are those of reduced enrollments and increased fees. Both actions may be necessary.

If enrollment must be curtailed, this means that the veterans who have already lost several of their most productive years will be penalized even further. The current group of young high school graduates will also suffer.

There is another point which makes the college outlook even darker. That is the fact that college instruction at the junior-senior level costs more than twice as much as instruction at the freshman-sophomore level.

A study at Auburn, made by Dr. David Mullins, Research Professor in Education, reports a condition typical at other Alabama colleges. Dr. Mullins points out that: "In the Fall Quarter 1946, three-fourths of the total hours of instruction given by this institution was at the freshman-sophomore level. Slightly over 70 percent of the student body, or about 4,500, was enrolled in the first two years . . . This means that during the next two years the cost of the instructional program will be at least three times as great as at present."

Here, then, is the crisis which faces the State of Alabama. The story above is merely an outline of the tragic picture written in the daily lives of Alabama's youth.

It has often been said that to be educated in the South is to grow up under a handicap of deficiencies. Are we to continue to allow them to exist in the Atomic Age, as well as in days past? Alabama's first order of unfinished business is education. The motion is before the people. Are we ready for the Question?



Frank Boyd, Pres., Auburn Alumni Association, urges Alumni support of Auburn's needs. (See story on page 2).